

Department of Correction Employees Carry Flame of Hope for Special Olympians

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"Showing our support for Special Olympic Athletes is just one way that we can give back to the community in a meaningful way. My heart goes out to the families that have and continue to overcome challenges in order to promote a healthy lifestyle for their loved ones."

J. David Donahue,
Commissioner



Photo Caption: DOC Team Participates in Torch Run

Indianapolis, Indiana - (June 3, 2007) - On Friday June 1, seventeen Indiana Department of Correction employees participated in the 17th Annual Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics.

"The Department of Correction is proud to mark its 12th year of participation in the Law Enforcement Torch Run," said Commissioner J. David Donahue.

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The Torch run began at Victory Field in Indianapolis, with the ceremonial Law Enforcement Torch Run "kickoff." Moderated by Scott Swann from WTHR Channel 13, event highlights consisted of an opening prayer, moment of silence for fallen public safety officers as well as the pledge of allegiance and the reciting of the Special Olympics Creed. Following this all runners partook in a ceremonial lap around Victory Field.

"Running for 3.6 miles was a challenge, but the daily challenges families face associated with intellectual disorders makes carrying the Flame of Hope Torch pretty easy," said Bruce Lemmon, Deputy Commissioner of Re-entry, who participated in the Torch Run.

The Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics is the largest grassroots fundraising program benefiting Special Olympics throughout the world. Internationally, law enforcement agencies raise funds and awareness for Special Olympics.

About The Department of Correction

The Department employs over 8,000 employees and houses 24,000 adult and juveniles in 32 facilities, ranging from minimum to maximum custody, prison camps, juvenile facilities and work release centers. The Department's home page on the Internet can be found at: <http://www.in.gov/indcorrection>. The Department's Re-entry Site can be found: <http://www.reentry.in.gov>.